

We claim:

1 1. A method of measuring a temperature in an
2 electrical apparatus, comprising the steps of:

3 (a) launching a broad-band light into a first glass
4 fiber impressed with a first Bragg grating having a specific
5 Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG1} ;

6 (b) optically coupling said first glass fiber with a
7 second glass fiber impressed with a second Bragg grating having a
8 specific Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} different from the
9 specific Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG1} of the first Bragg
10 grating and so coupled with the first glass fiber that reflected
11 light from the first Bragg grating is conducted to said second
12 Bragg grating;

13 (c) introducing said glass fiber into an electrical
14 apparatus to position said first Bragg grating at a location at
15 which a temperature is to be determined, whereby the Bragg
16 reflection wavelength λ_{BG1} of said first Bragg grating is shifted
17 as a function of change in said temperature at said location;
18 and

19 (d) feeding nonreflected light from said second Bragg
20 grating to a photodetector having an output voltage dependent
21 upon detected light intensity and representing a measurement of
22 said temperature at said location.

1 2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein said first
2 glass fiber is formed with a plurality of said first Bragg
3 gratings, said method further comprising positioning each of said
4 first Bragg gratings at different locations in said electrical
5 apparatus at which respective temperatures are to be measured,
6 and varying the specific Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} of said
7 second Bragg grating by mechanically deforming said second glass
8 fiber in a micrometer range.

1 3. The method defined in claim 2 wherein the specific
2 wavelengths of all of the glass fibers are so dimensioned that,
3 upon a measured temperature in the electrical apparatus exceeding
4 a predetermined critical temperature, an output voltage level at
5 said photodetector will exceed a limiting value and
6 automatically generate an alarm signal.

1 4. The method defined in claim 1 wherein the specific
2 wavelengths of all of the glass fibers are so dimensioned that,
3 upon a measured temperature in the electrical apparatus exceeding
4 a predetermined critical temperature, an output voltage level at
5 said photodetector will exceed a limiting value and
6 automatically generate an alarm signal.

1 5. An apparatus for measuring a temperature in an
2 electrical apparatus, comprising:

3 a first glass fiber impressed with a first Bragg
4 grating having a specific first Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG1}
5 and positioned at a location in an electrical apparatus at which
6 a temperature is to be measured, whereby the Bragg reflection
7 wavelength λ_{BG1} of said first Bragg grating is shifted as a
8 function of change in said temperature at said location;

9 a source of broad-band light coupled to said first
10 glass fiber for launching said broad-band light into said first
11 glass fiber;

12 a second glass fiber impressed with a second Bragg
13 grating having a specific second Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG2}
14 different from the specific Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG1} of
15 the first Bragg grating;

16 an optocoupler for coupling said first glass fiber with
17 said second glass fiber so that reflected light from the first
18 Bragg grating is conducted to said second Bragg grating; and

19 a photodetector coupled to said second glass fiber
20 downstream of said second Bragg grating and receiving
21 nonreflected light from said second Bragg grating, said
22 photodetector having an output voltage dependent upon detected
23 light intensity and representing a measurement of said
24 temperature at said location.

1 6. The apparatus defined in claim 5 wherein a
2 plurality of spaced-apart first Bragg gratings are written into
3 said first glass fiber and are positioned at a corresponding
4 number of locations of said electrical apparatus at which
5 temperatures are to be measured, and said second Bragg grating
6 has a variable second Bragg reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} .

1 7. The apparatus defined in claim 6 wherein said
2 photodetector comprises a photodiode and a transimpedance
3 amplifier connected to said photodiode.

1 8. The apparatus defined in claim 7, further
2 comprising means for mechanically deforming said second glass
3 fiber in a micrometer range to vary said specific second Bragg
4 reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} of said second glass fiber.

1 9. The apparatus defined in claim 8 wherein said
2 optocoupler has a branch to which a further glass fiber is
3 coupled, said apparatus further comprising means for converting a
4 light signal in said further glass fiber to a voltage, an output
5 signal of said photodetector being normalized to the voltage into
6 which the light signal in said further glass fiber is converted.

1 10. The apparatus defined in claim 5 wherein said
2 photodetector comprises a photodiode and a transimpedance
3 amplifier connected to said photodiode.

1 11. The apparatus defined in claim 10, further
2 comprising means for mechanically deforming said second glass
3 fiber in a micrometer range to vary said specific second Bragg
4 reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} of said second glass fiber.

1 12. The apparatus defined in claim 11 wherein said
2 optocoupler has a branch to which a further glass fiber is
3 coupled, said apparatus further comprising means for converting a
4 light signal in said further glass fiber to a voltage, an output
5 signal of said photodetector being normalized to the voltage into
6 which the light signal in said further glass fiber is converted.

1 13. The apparatus defined in claim 5, further
2 comprising means for mechanically deforming said second glass
3 fiber in a micrometer range to vary said specific second Bragg
4 reflection wavelength λ_{BG2} of said second glass fiber.

1 14. The apparatus defined in claim 13 wherein said
2 optocoupler has a branch to which a further glass fiber is
3 coupled, said apparatus further comprising means for converting a
4 light signal in said further glass fiber to a voltage, an output
5 signal of said photodetector being normalized to the voltage into
6 which the light signal in said further glass fiber is converted.

1 15. The apparatus defined in claim 5 wherein said
2 optocoupler has a branch to which a further glass fiber is
3 coupled, said apparatus further comprising means for converting a
4 light signal in said further glass fiber to a voltage, an output
5 signal of said photodetector being normalized to the voltage into
6 which the light signal in said further glass fiber is converted.